

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A polyacetal resin composition comprising:

(I) a polyacetal resin; and per 100 parts by weight thereof,

(II) more than 5 parts by weight but less than 100 parts by weight of calcium carbonate, wherein the calcium carbonate has an average particle diameter of from 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to less than 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and an average aspect ratio (L/D) which is a ratio of average major axis (L) of particles to average minor axis (D) of particles of 3 or less;

(III) 0.005 to 10 parts by weight of an organic acid; and

(IV) 0 to less than 0.05 parts by weight of a fatty acid ester,

wherein the amount of Na relative to Ca is 250 ppm or less and the amount of Sr relative to Ca is from 500 to 2500 ppm.

2. (Original) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the amount of Na relative to Ca in the composition is 100 ppm or less.

3. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of Sr relative to Ca in the composition is from 600 to 1500 ppm.

4. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein formaldehyde-generating rates, at the time when the polyacetal resin (I) is heated at 220°C under an argon stream, for heating periods of from 2 minutes to 10 minutes, from 10 minutes to 30 minutes and from 50 minutes to 90 minutes are each 15 ppm/min or less.

5. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 4 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the polyacetal resin (I) is a heat-stabilized polyacetal resin obtained by treating to stabilize thermally unstable terminals with at least one quaternary ammonium compound represented by the following formula:



wherein  $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4$  each independently represents an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group in which an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms is substituted with at least one aryl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, or an alkylaryl group in

which an aryl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms is substituted with at least one unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, provided that the unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group may be any of linear, branched or cyclic, and that in the unsubstituted alkyl group, aryl group, aralkyl group or alkylaryl group, hydrogen atom(s) may be substituted with halogen(s); n represents an integer of 1 to 3; and X represents a hydrogen atom, or an acid residue of a carboxylic acid having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a hydroacid, an oxo acid, an inorganic thio acid or an organic thio acid having 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

6. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 5 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the polyacetal resin (I) is a copolymer having a melting point of 164 to 172°C.

7. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) is light calcium carbonate.

8. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 7 ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) has an average particle diameter of from 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 7 ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) has a content of particles having a particle diameter of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less of 90% or more.

10. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 7 ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) has a BET specific surface area of from 10 to 200  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

11. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 7 ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) comprises spherical particles, cubic particles, rectangular particles, amorphous particles, or a mixture thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~, wherein the organic acid (III) is a saturated fatty acid having 8 to 36 carbon atoms.

13. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~, wherein the fatty acid ester (IV) is an ester of a fatty acid having 10 to 24 carbon atoms with a monohydric or polyhydric alcohol having 2 to 22 carbon atoms.

14. (Currently Amended) A polyacetal resin composition comprising the polyacetal resin composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-13~~ and further (V) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a polyalkylene glycol per 100 parts by weight of the polyacetal resin composition.

15. (Original) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim 14, wherein the polyalkylene glycol (V) is polyethylene glycol or polypropylene glycol.

16. (Currently Amended) The polyacetal resin composition according to claim ~~14 or~~ 15, wherein the polyalkylene glycol (V) has a number-average molecular weight of from 10,000 to 45,000.

17.(Original) A process for producing a polyacetal resin composition comprising a step of simultaneously melt-kneading:

(I) a polyacetal resin; and per 100 parts by weight thereof,

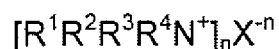
(II) more than 5 parts by weight but less than 100 parts by weight of calcium carbonate which has an average particle diameter of from 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to less than 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and an average aspect ratio (L/D) which is a ratio of average major axis (L) of particles to average minor axis (D) of particles of 3 or less and which is not surface-treated with a saturated fatty acid,

unsaturated fatty acid and metal salt thereof having 8 to 32 carbon atoms;  
and

(III) 0.005 to 10 parts by weight of an organic acid,  
at melting point of the polyacetal resin (I) or higher.

18. (Original) The process according to claim 17, wherein  
formaldehyde-generating rates, at the time when the polyacetal resin (I) is  
heated at 220°C under an argon stream, for heating periods of from 2  
minutes to 10 minutes, from 10 minutes to 30 minutes and from 50 minutes  
to 90 minutes are each 15 ppm/min or less.

19. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 17 ~~or~~ 18,  
wherein the polyacetal resin (I) is a heat-stabilized polyacetal resin  
obtained by treating to stabilize thermally unstable terminals with at least  
one quaternary ammonium compound represented by the following  
formula:



wherein  $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4$  each independently represents an unsubstituted or  
substituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, an aryl group having 6  
to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group in which an unsubstituted or  
substituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms is substituted with at  
least one aryl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms, or an alkylaryl group in

which an aryl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms is substituted with at least one unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, provided that the unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group may be any of linear, branched or cyclic, and that in the unsubstituted alkyl group, aryl group, aralkyl group or alkylaryl group, hydrogen atom(s) may be substituted with halogen(s); n represents an integer of 1 to 3; and X represents a hydrogen atom, or an acid residue of a carboxylic acid having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a hydroacid, an oxo acid, an inorganic thio acid or an organic thio acid having 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

20. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 17 ~~any one of claims 17 to 19~~, wherein the polyacetal resin (I) is a copolymer having a melting point of 164 to 172°C.

21. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 17 ~~any one of claims 17 to 20~~, wherein in the calcium carbonate (II), the amount of Na relative to Ca is 250 ppm or less and the amount of Sr relative to Ca is from 500 to 2500 ppm.

22. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 17 ~~any one of claims 17 to 24~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) is light calcium carbonate.

23. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 22 ~~any one of claims 17 to 22~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) has an average particle diameter of from 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

24. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 22 ~~any one of claims 17 to 23~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) has a content of particles having a particle diameter of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less of 90% or more.

25. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 22 ~~any one of claims 17 to 24~~, wherein the calcium carbonate (II) has a BET specific surface area of from 10 to 200  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

26. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 22 ~~any one of claims 17 to 25~~ wherein the calcium carbonate (II) comprises spherical particles, cubic particles, rectangular particles, amorphous particles, or a mixture thereof.

27. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 17 ~~any one of claims 17 to 26~~, wherein the organic acid (III) is a saturated fatty acid having 8 to 36 carbon atoms.